

Special Education Programs

Information, News, and Events

September 2015

“Every student can learn. Just not on the same day or in the same way.”

George Evans

STAFF:

Linda Turner, Director
Melissa Flor, Assistant Director
Rebecca Cain, Program Specialist
Angel Corrales, Data Manager
Arlene Maxfield, Program Specialist
Ben Morrison, Program Specialist
Ambrea Sikes, Program Specialist
Beth Schiltz, Program Specialist
Wendy Trujillo, Program Specialist
Merle Doolittle, Administrative Assistant

Sped Program Highlights:

- Campus has a SD December Child Count report that can be run at any time during the year to see the students that are currently coded as Special Education. This report is located in the SD State Reporting drop down and would be helpful to verify the Fall Enrollment count on September 25.

Sped Director Monthly Meeting, September 15, 2015, 10:00 central

Connect through Skype for Business at: [Join Skype Meeting](#)

Direct dial: 1(866)410-8397 Participant code: 1286289700

Agenda Items:

- WIOA (Workforce Investment & Opportunity Act) – Bernie Grimmie – VR
- Transfer of Rights at age of majority – Parent Connections & Advocacy
- Middle Level Math Endorsement – Certification Office
- Multiple Disability eligibility determination
- Comprehensive Plans

Federal Program Highlights:

- **Identifying English Learners who also have a learning disability**
No single method has proven effective in differentiating between English learner students who have difficulty acquiring language skills and those who have learning disabilities. For more information on identifying and supporting EL students with learning disabilities [click here](#).
- The Office of Civil Rights issued on 9/8/15 a [TA Guide](#) on the obligation of testing entities, to ensure that the test scores of individuals with disabilities accurately reflect the individual's aptitude, achievement, or the skill measured, rather than his or her disability. The emphasis of this document is on testing accommodations.

DOE Program Highlights – Middle Level Math Endorsement:

- **Board of Ed approves intermediate math endorsement**
The state Board of Education has approved the creation of an intermediate math endorsement. It creates a pathway for individuals who are teaching lower-level math courses only to earn the endorsement and teach those courses. The high-school level option, which allows the individual to teach upper-level math courses as well, remains intact.
- **SD Accommodations Manual Updated.** Check out SD Smarter Balanced website for updates to the SD Accommodations Manual, SD SBAC Usability, Accessibility and Accommodations Guidelines (SD SBAC UAAG) manual, and other documents. A tool for making read aloud/text-to-speech decisions for the reading passages has been included on pages 49-57 of the SD SBAC UAAG or pages 90-96 of the SD Accommodations Manual.

Information, News and Events

Sped Program Feature Presentation: New Staff Member

Angel (An-hail) Corrales – Special Education Data Manager: Angel will be the Part B Data Manager, this is a new position in the Special Ed Office. His responsibilities are to help manage sped data and find ways to improve some of the data collection and reporting processes. Angel is “happy to be here and to be part of this great team.”

Welcome Angel!

Professional Development: (click on the titles to go to registration site)

- **Sped Teacher Effectiveness Trainings**
Special education teachers and administrators who evaluate them are invited to attend this training, which will provide clarification on SLOs and dig deeper into the South Dakota Framework for Teaching. Educators will learn how the SD Framework for Teaching and SLOs work together, along with how to write differentiated SLO goals which is the recommended practice. In addition, they will break down the SD Framework for Teaching and the different Special Education scenarios.
 - September 30: Spearfish
 - October 7: Pierre
 - October 6: Aberdeen
 - October 9: Sioux Falls
- **Fall Transition Trainings** are being held the week of September 14 – 17, 2015.
 - Monday, September 14 – Rapid City (TIE Office)
 - Tuesday, September 15 – Mitchell (Highlands Conference Center)
 - Wednesday, September 16 – Hilton Garden Inn Center, Sioux Falls
 - Thursday, September 17 – Best Western Ramkota, Aberdeen.If you haven't registered and are interested, please contact the liaison at www.tslp.org
- **Transition Forums** are great networking opportunities for high school students/disabilities, their parents and educators to learn of the agencies, supports & programs that are available for students as they exit the school system. Representatives from numerous adult agencies are present to provide information and answer any questions participants may have.

Regional Transition Forums for 2015

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| 9/23/15 | Milbank, Pizza Ranch | 5:00pm-7:00pm |
| 9/29/15 | Platte, Mid-Central Cooperative Conf. Room | 11:30am-2:00pm |
| 10/22/15 | Beresford, The Bridges at Beresford | 11:30am-2:00pm |
| 11/04/15 | Redfield, Redfield Senior Center | 5:00pm-7:00pm |
| 11/12/15 | Pierre, View 34 Pub | 11:00am-2:00pm |
| 11/16/15 | Tiospia Zina School | 2:00pm-5:00pm |
| 11/18/15 | Brookings, Brookings City Library | 11:30am-2:00pm |
| 11/18/15 | Rapid City, TIE Office | 1:00pm-7:00pm |

Please contact your transition liaison to register!

- **IEP Workshops**
Department of Education is offering two types of IEP workshops again this fall. The IEP Back to Basics is geared for teachers with 3 years or less experience, where the IEP Process in Action workshop is more advanced. This training is designed to provide an overview of criteria used in the Special Education Process. Participants will be reviewing the special education process to think about how the whole team can be involved in the IEP process.

Information, News and Events

Professional Development Cont...

- [**BIE students ages Birth to 5 Guidance: Who's responsible?**](#)

October 13th - 1pm-5pm – Cedar Shores Oacoma, SD

SD Part B and Part C programs and the Technical Assistance for Excellence in Special Education (TAESE) center have collaborated to update the BIE Birth to 5 guidance manual regarding children living on reservations within the Local Education Agencies (LEA) jurisdiction. This training will focus on who is responsible for child find, federal reporting, and location of services. This training is designed for school districts and tribal agencies who work together on providing services to children living within LEA jurisdiction.

- [**New Test coordinator Workshop**](#)

September 29th - 9am-4pm – Ramkota Pierre, SD

The workshop is designed to assist school staff assigned to the role of district assessment coordinator an understanding of the state assessment system and the responsibilities at the district level to ensure all students are assessed. All state assessments will be reviewed along with the similarities and differences of the assessments. Participants will leave with a toolkit to assist them in completing all the different assessment tasks that must be accomplished during each testing cycle.

- [**Fall Assessment Workshop**](#)

October 19th – 23rd Rapid City, Pierre, Aberdeen, Watertown, and Sioux Falls

The one-day workshop will provide all public school districts and participating non-public schools with information needed for planning for all required 2015-16 assessments. Each presenter will provide participants with a detailed overview of needed steps to prepare to administer the assessments including next steps. For each assessment, participants will receive a one-page document that has high level details and next steps for the specific assessment program including appropriate links to websites.

- [**Assessment Webinar – Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2015 3:00 pm central SD Usability, Accessibility and Accommodations Guidelines**](#)

– Find about what tools, supports, and accommodations are available for students on the state assessment. Resources that can be used to help make decisions on what supports and accommodations individual students may need will also be shown.

- [**Digital Library Spotlight Webinars and Forums for Supporting Students with Disabilities.**](#) These spotlight webinars and forums connect educators across states to discuss these topics: Maximizing Access to Instruction and Testing for Students with Disabilities to Improve Achievement; Opportunity to Learn for all Students: Enhancing Access to What Should be Taught and What Will be Tested; Understanding and Accelerating Achievement Growth for Students with Disabilities.